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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/495,476	02/01/2000	Takehito Yamaguchi	50023-117	4917

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EXAMINER

EBRAHIMI DEHKORDY, SAEID

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2626

DATE MAILED: 11/20/2003

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

2

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/495,476

Applicant(s)

YAMAGUCHI ET AL.

Examiner

Saeid Ebrahimi-dehKordy

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 7.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kuwano et al (US 2001/100295513)

Regarding claim 1 Kuwano et al disclose: An image inputting and outputting apparatus comprising: document management means (please note page 4 paragraph 0089 lines 7-13) which, upon receiving an instruction for registration of document image data from dialog-type control means registers with memory means the document image data by adding an document ID (please note page 4 paragraph 0089 lines 1-7) to identify said document image data pattern composition means that generates document image data with a document ID mark by integrating the document ID mark for said document image data and a specific page of said document image data (please note page 5 paragraph 0097 lines 1-10) and output means that outputs the document image data with a document ID mark from said pattern composition means 8 (please note page 16 paragraph 0275 lines 1-12) characterized in that there is provided said dialog-type control means that inquires of the user about the choices with regard to registration

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with said memory means and gives instructions to said document management means on the basis of information indicated by the user (please note page 5 paragraph 0094 lines 1-14).

Regarding claim 2 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said dialog-type control means inquires of the user if the paper document that is inputted as document image data from document Image-inputting means 1 is the last page the timing of said inquiry depending on the kind of registration mode (please note page 6 paragraph 0110 lines 1-18).

Regarding claim 3 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 2 wherein said dialog-type control means inquires of the user if the paper document that is inputted as document image data from document image inputting means 1 is the last page after the last page of the (please note Fig.12, page 6 paragraph 0111 lines 1-4) document image data is inputted from the document image inputting means 1 (please note page 6 paragraph 0112 lines 1-5).

Regarding claim 4 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 2 wherein said dialog-type control means inquires of the user if the paper document that is inputted as document image data from document image inputting means 1 is the last page before the last page of the document image data is inputted from the document image inputting means 1 (please note page 6 paragraph 0113 lines 1-4).

Regarding claim 5 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in any of claims 1 to 4 wherein said dialog-type control means

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inquires of the user whether to output all the pages of the document image data corresponding to said document image data with a document ID mark along with the document image data with the document ID mark (please note page 4 paragraph 0089 lines 7-13).

Regarding claims 6 and 18 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said dialog-type control means inquires of the user in which form said document image data with a document ID should be outputted in the normal form the thumbnail form or the form for fax (please note page 7 paragraph 0125 lines 1-6).

Regarding claims 7 and 21 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said memory means is at least one out of hard disk removable media and network -connected server (please note page 5 paragraph 0094 lines 5-7).

Regarding claim 8 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 7 wherein said dialog-type control means inquires of the user with which to register document image data with hard disk removable media or network-connected server (please note page 4 paragraph 0089 lines 1-7).

Regarding claim 9 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 7 wherein said dialog-type control means inquires of the user on which to copy document image data registered with the hard disk, on the removable media or network-connected server (please note page 7 paragraph 0138 lines 1-8).

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Regarding claim 10 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 7 wherein said dialog-type control means inquire of the user to which to move document image data registered with the hard disk to the removable media or network -connected server (please note page 9 paragraph 014 lines 1-18).

Regarding claim 11 Kuwano et al disclose: An image inputting and outputting apparatus comprising document management means which upon receiving an instruction to fetch document image data from dialog-type control means (please note page 6 paragraph 0118 lines 1-4) converts into a document ID the document ID mark contained in the document image data with a document ID mark inputted from the document image inputting means and fetches the document image data specified by the document ID (please note page 9 paragraph 0156 lines 1-12) and output means that outputs the document image data taken out by said document image inputting mean characterized in that there is provided said dialog-type control means that inquires of the user about the choices Instructions to said document management means on the basis of information indicated by the user (please note page 8, paragraph 0154 lines 1-13)

Regarding claim 12 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting, and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 11 wherein said dialog-type control means inquires of the user if the attribute information on the document image data that is outputted try output means should be displayed on the control panel of said dialog-type control mean (please note page 8 paragraph 0154 lines 6-13).

Regarding claim 13 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 11 wherein said dialog-type control means inquires of the user a range of pages of the document image data to be outputted from the output means (please note page 5 paragraph 0102 lines 1-7).

Regarding claim 14 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 11 wherein said dialog-type control means inquires of the user in which form said document image data should be outputted in the normal form or thumbnail form (please note page 6 paragraph 0111 lines 1-11).

Regarding claim 15 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 11 wherein when an error occurs while a plurality of document image data with document ID marks are being inputted from the document image inputting means, said dialog-type control means inquires of the user whether to resume the inputting (please note page 16 paragraph 0269 lines 1-55).

Regarding claim 16 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 11 wherein; in case at least one out of the registrant, registration term and registration source is indicated and inputted from said dialog-type control means as requirements for the fetching of document image data instead of inputting said document image data with a document ID mark said dialog-type control means inquires of the user which document image data meeting the requirements for the fetching should be outputted from the output means (please note page 7 paragraph 0124 lines 2-36).

Regarding claim 17 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim it; wherein said dialog-type control means inquires of the user whether document image data with document ID mark corresponding to the document image data meeting the requirements for the fetching should be outputted from the output means instead of the document image data meeting the requirements for the fetching (please note page 7 paragraph 0127 lines 1-16).

Regarding claim 19 Kuwano et al disclose: An image inputting and outputting apparatus wherein document (please note page 4 paragraph 0089 lines 7-13) image data are registered with the memory means 97 (please note page 4 paragraph 0089 lines 2-7) and managed with document ID's at said document management means 3 (please note page 4 paragraph 0089 lines 7-15) and when a document ID is given (please note page 4 paragraph 0089 lines 7-9) the document image data corresponding to said document ID is fetched (please note page 8 paragraph 0154 lines 3-6) characterized in that there is provided said document management means to specify the document image data (please note page 8 paragraph 0154 lines 13-18). corresponding to the immediately preceding access to said memory means.

Regarding claim 20 Kuwano et al disclose: An image inputting and outputting apparatus wherein document image data are registered with the memory means 97 (please note page 4 paragraph 0089 lines 1-13) and managed with document ID's at said document management means 3 (please note page 4 paragraph 0089 lines 10-13) and when a document ID is given (please note page 4 paragraph 0089 lines 7-10) the document image data corresponding to said document ID is fetched (please note page

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8 paragraph 0154 lines 4-10) characterized in that there are provided: said document management means having a first function to specify document image data on the basis of the immediately preceding access to said memory means and a second function to specify document image data on the basis of the inputted document ID and dialog-type control means for directing the selective switchover between said two functions (please note page 4 paragraph 0089 lines 1-15).

Regarding claim 21 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 19 or claim 20 wherein said memory means is at least one out of hard disk, removable media and network-connected server.

Regarding claim 22 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 19 or claim 20 wherein said immediately preceding access is the immediately preceding fetching (please note page 7 paragraph 0127 lines 1-16).

Regarding claim 23 Kuwano et al disclose: The image: inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 19 or claim 20 wherein said immediately preceding access is the immediately preceding registration (please note page 7 paragraph 0126 lines 1-30).

Regarding claim 24 Kuwano disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 19 or claim 20 wherein said immediately preceding access is the immediately preceding fetching and immediately preceding registration and Wherein in case no document imago data has just been fetched, document image

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data is specified on the basis of the immediately preceding registration (please note page 8 paragraph 150 lines 1-15).

Regarding claim 25 Kuwano disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 19 or claim 20 Wherein said document management means is provided with an attribute management table where specific document image data and their corresponding document ID's are written and wherein the date and time of the previous access are written on said attribute management table so that said data and time are referred to in order to judge whether and access is the immediately preceding access or not (please note page 6 paragraph 0115 lines 1-10).

Regarding claim 26 Kuwano et al disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 19 or claim 20 which is provided with dialog-type control means for indicating and inputting an instruction to fetch document image data corresponding to said immediately preceding access.

Regarding claim 27 Kuwano disclose: The image inputting and outputting apparatus as defined in claim 19 or claim 20 which is provided with user authorization means where user ID's allocated for individual users are inputted to authenticate users wherein said document management means specifies document image data corresponding to said immediately preceding access for individual user ID's (please note page 8 paragraph 0147 lines 1-14).

Contact Information

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- Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to *Saeid Ebrahimi-Dehkordy* whose telephone number is (703) 306-3487.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams, can be reached at (703) 305-4863.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306, or (703) 308-9052 (for **formal** communications; please mark
"EXPEDITED PROCEDURE")

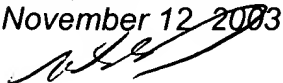
Or:


(703) 306-5406 (for **informal** or **draft** communications, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4750.

Saeid Ebrahimi-Dehkordy
Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 2626
November 12, 2003




KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER